

60130-1308
99MRA0087/0246**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 5, 8, 14, 15, 16 and 22 without prejudice.

1. (Currently Amended) A latch mechanism ~~including~~ comprising:
a latch bolt moveable between a primary latched position and an open position;
a first pawl moveable between a first engaged position, where the first pawl secures the latch bolt in at least its primary latched position and a second released position, where the first pawl releases the latch bolt from at least its ~~first~~ primary latched position;
release means moveable between a first engaged position, where the release means allows the first pawl to achieve its first engaged position and a second released position, where the release means retains the first pawl in its second released position; ~~and~~
a second pawl moveable between a first engaged position, where the second pawl is capable of retaining the release means in its second released position, and a second released position, where the second pawl releases the release means from its second released position, such that the latch mechanism can be latched and unlatched;
a third pawl operatively coupled to the second pawl; wherein a trip abutment on the latch bolt engages the third pawl to move the second pawl from its first engaged position to its second released position to allow the latch mechanism to latch.

2. (Original) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 1 in which the release means is fast with the first pawl.

3. (Original) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 1 in which release means is moveable relative to the first pawl.

4. (Previously Presented) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 1 in which the latch bolt additionally has a secondary latched position intermediate the primary latch position and the open position.

5. (Cancelled)

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6. (Original) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 15 in which the trip abutment is capable of moving the second pawl during movement of the latch bolt from its open position to its primary ~~or secondary~~ latched position.

7. (Currently Amended) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 15 in which the trip abutment does not affect retention of the release means in its second released position by the second pawl during movement of the latch bolt from its primary ~~or secondary~~ latched position to its open position.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 18 in which the third pawl allows the latched bolt to move from its primary ~~or secondary~~ latched position to its open position without movement of the second pawl.

10. (Currently Amended) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 18 in which the third pawl is mounted on the second pawl.

11. (Currently Amended) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 18 in which the third pawl is mounted on a chassis of the latch assembly.

12. (Previously presented) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 1 in which a first arm of the release means is engaged to move the release means from its first engaged position to its second released position.

13. (Currently Amended) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 1 in which an arm ~~(56)~~ of the release means is engaged by the second pawl to retain the release means in its second released position.

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14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A latch mechanism as defined in claim ~~14~~29 in which the drive train includes a first abutment operable to move the release means from its first engaged position to its second released position.

18. (Previously Presented) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 17 in which the first abutment of the drive train engages the first arm of the release means.

19. (Currently Amended) A latch mechanism as defined in claim ~~14~~29 in which the drive train includes a second abutment which co-operates with the release means to provide a drive train stop.

20. (Currently Amended) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 19 in which the second abutment co-operates with an arm ~~(54)~~ of the release means.

21. (Currently Amended) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 19 ~~when dependent upon claim 17~~ in which the first abutment is capable of acting as the second abutment.

22. (Cancelled)

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23. (Currently Amended) A latch mechanism including a power actuator, the power actuator having a motor and a drive train, the drive train having a plurality of abutments operatively coupled to each other for engagement with a release arrangement of the latch mechanism, energization of the motor causing one of the plurality of abutments to move the release arrangement from a first engaged position to second released position to release ~~the~~ a latch, ~~resulting in~~causing another of the plurality of abutments co-operating with the release arrangement to provide a drive train stop.

24. (Previously Presented) A latch mechanism as defined in Claim 23 in which the latch mechanism includes a latch bolt moveable between a primary latch position and an open position, and the release arrangement includes a first pawl moveable between a first engaged position where the first pawl secures the latch bolt in at least its primary latch position and a second release position, where the first pawl releases the latch bolt from at least its first primary latch position, the release arrangement further including release means moveable between the first engaged position, where the release means allows the first pawl to achieves its first engaged position and a second release position where the release means retains the first pawl in its second release position.

25. (Original) A latch mechanism as defined in Claim 24 in which the release means is fast with the first pawl.

26. (Original) A latch arrangement as defined in Claim 24 in which the release means is moveable relative to the first pawl.

27. (Previously Presented) A latch mechanism as defined in Claim 23 in which the plurality of abutments includes a first set of abutments to move the release arrangement from the first engaged position to the second release position and a second set of abutments for co-operation with the release arrangement to provide the drive train stop.

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28. (Previously Presented) A latch mechanism as defined in Claim 27 in which the first set of abutments acts on the release means and the second set of abutments act on the pawl.

Please add the following new claims:

29. (New) A latch mechanism, comprising:

a power actuator having a motor and a drive train, wherein the motor operates in only one direction;

a latch bolt moveable between a primary latched position and an open position,

a first pawl moveable between a first engaged position, where the first pawl secures the latch bolt in at least its primary latched position and a second released position, where the first pawl releases the latch bolt from at least its primary latched position,

release means moveable between a first engaged position, where the release means allows the first pawl to achieve its first engaged position and a second released position, where the release means retains the first pawl in its second released position,

a second pawl moveable between a first engaged position, where the second pawl is capable of retaining the release means in its second released position, and a second released position, where the second pawl releases the release means from its second released position such that the latch mechanism can be latched and unlatched.

30. (New) A latch mechanism, comprising:

a power actuator having a motor and a drive train, wherein the drive train operates in only one direction;

a latch bolt moveable between a primary latched position and an open position,

a first pawl moveable between a first engaged position, where the first pawl secures the latch bolt in at least its primary latched position and a second released position, where the first pawl releases the latch bolt from at least its primary latched position,

release means moveable between a first engaged position, where the release means allows the first pawl to achieve its first engaged position and a second released position, where the release means retains the first pawl in its second released position,

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a second pawl moveable between a first engaged position, where the second pawl is capable of retaining the release means in its second released position, and a second released position, where the second pawl releases the release means from its second released position such that the latch mechanism can be latched and unlatched.

31. (New) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 30 in which the drive train includes a first abutment operable to move the release means from its first engaged position to its second released position.

32. (New) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 31 in which the first abutment of the drive train engages the first arm of the release means.

33. (New) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 30 in which the drive train includes a second abutment which co-operates with the release means to provide a drive train stop.

34. (New) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 33 in which the second abutment co-operates with an arm of the release means.

35. (New) A latch mechanism as defined in claim 33 in which the first abutment is capable of acting as the second abutment.